[9th October 1928

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member whether Government has recently appointed any under-graduates as deputy tahsildars ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Government do not ordinarily appoint deputy tahsildars direct. If the hon. Member refers to the annual list of appointment of probationary deputy tahsildars, I must ask for notice."

Increased pay for attenders in the Revenue Department, Nilgiris.

* 454 Q.—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any petition has been received from attenders in the Revenue Department, especially from the Nilgiris, regarding their status and pay ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that according to G.O. No. 842, Public, dated 10th September 1927, there are two grades of attenders ;

(*c*) how many of the attenders have been promoted from the lower to higher grade ;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that there are no higher grade attenders in any of the mufassal revenue offices ; and

(*e*) whether Government will be pleased to increase their pay ?

A.—(*a*) Memorials from attenders in the Revenue Department in certain taluks of the districts of Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Salem and Ramnad have been received. No memorial from attenders in the Nilgiris district has been received.

(*b*) & (*c*) Two grades of attenders are not recognized in the Government Order. On the other hand the Government have directed that the term attender should for the future be restricted to those inferior servants who draw the scale of Rs. 20—35 (25—35 in Madras City) and that all others at present designated variously as peons, attenders, muchis, etc., should be for the future called peons.

(*d*) According to the Civil Budget Estimate for 1928–29 there are fourteen attenders and muchis on Rs. 20—25 in the offices of the Collectors and District Magistrates.

(*e*) There is no proposal to increase the pay of the men now classed as peons in mufassal revenue offices A proposal to appoint attenders, i.e., men on Rs. 20—35 in Stationary Sub-Magistrates' offices, is under consideration.

Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA :—" With reference to the answer to (*e*), will the Government please consider the question of increasing the pay of the peons in the next budget at least ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" If the hon. Member is referring to those who were hitherto called attenders, there is no proposal to increase their pay."